

Message Text

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ACTION INR-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EA-11 ADP-00 EB-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03

AGR-20 COME-00 TRSE-00 STR-08 CEA-02 CIEP-02 OMB-01

RSR-01 /131 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9361

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 5511

E.O. 11652: ADS 2/28/74

TAGS: ETRD BR JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE PURCHASES OF BRAZILIAN SOYBEANS

REF: TOKYO 10856 AND STATE 166785

1. JAPANESE NEGOTIATORS HAVE BEEN IN BRASILIA FOR A CONSIDERABLE LENGTH OF TIME ATTEMPTING TO WORK OUT AN AGREEMENT TO ACQUIRE QUANTITIES OF SOYBEANS, SOYBEAN MEAL AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES FROM BRAZIL (GOVERNMENT, EXPORTERS). A PORTION OF THESE COMMODITIES IS TO BE ACCEPTED AS PAYMENT FOR EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS BEING USED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE EXPORT CORRIDORS. THIS PORTION COULD AMOUNT TO 50 MILLION DOLLARS IN COMMODITIES FOR EACH OF FOUR SUCCESSIVE YEARS.

2. TRADERS IN SAO PAULO PUT LITTLE CREDENCE IN THE QUANTITY AND VALUE STATED IN MR. GREENWOOD'S NEWSPAPER ARTICLE. THESE ARE THE PEOPLE WHO WILL BE SELLING THE PRODUCTS TO THE JAPANESE. SO FAR THE GOVERNMENT HAS NOT AS YET INFORMED THEM OF THE FINALITY OF ANY AGREEMENT OR THE POSSIBLE TIME FRAME.

3. TODAY (AUG 24) CHIEF OF CABINET, MINAG TOLD AGATTACHE THAT DISCUSSIONS WITH THE JAPANESE FOR A MULTI-COMMODITY AGREEMENT

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WITH BRAZIL WERE ONGOING AND HAD BEEN FOR SOMETIME. SO

FAR NO AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED AND NO ONE WILL SPECULATE
WHEN ONE WILL BE REACHED. THE CHIEF OF CABINET DECLARED THAT
HE HAD NO IDEA WHERE THE FIGURE OF 2.5 MILLION TONS, WHICH
EHE CALLS RIDICULOUS, CAME FROM. BEGIN QUOTE: BRAZIL MIGHT NOT
EXPORT THAT AMOUNT MAYBE FOR YEARS AND CERTAINLY NOT TO ONE
COUNTRY. END QUOTE. HE BELIEVES THE STORY MIGHT HAVE BEEN OF
JAPANESE ORIGIN.
CRIMMINS

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